

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

A CANAL FISH SCREEN PROJECT

Klamath County, Oregon

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
Mid-Pacific Region
Klamath Basin Area Office
Klamath Falls, Oregon

FONSI No.: KBAO-FONSI-02-001

Recommended: _____ Date: _____
Area Office Environmental Staff

Approved: _____ Date: _____
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INTRODUCTION

The Bureau of Reclamation prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) (KBAO-EA-02-001) describing the environmental effects of a proposal to construct the A Canal fish screen system. The EA was prepared to satisfy the procedural requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (P.L. 91-190, as amended).

FINDING

Reclamation has determined, based upon the effects described in the EA, that the Proposed Action Alternative does not constitute a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. An environmental impact statement will not be prepared.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

The following alternative was considered in detail and described in the EA:

Install fish screen (the proposed action) – Reclamation will install a single vee screen in the A Canal with fish bypass pipelines discharging captured fish through bypass flows into either the Link River or Upper Klamath Lake. The existing headgate structure will be removed, and replaced with a new trash rack structure. The new headworks will be constructed downstream of the new fish screen. The existing measurement ramp flume will be demolished and replaced by an electronic flow meter.

SUMMARY OF EFFECTS

In making the finding of no significant impact, Reclamation has considered the environmental effects of the proposed action on the following resources: cultural resources, threatened and endangered species, wetland and riparian areas, recreational uses, vegetation, wildlife, air quality, topography, geology, soils, and noise. The effects on these resources described in the EA were found to be insignificant. This finding incorporates by reference the analysis of impacts described in the EA. The adverse effects of the proposed action on the affected resources described in the EA are temporary, localized, and short-term. The mitigation measures on pages 14-16 of the EA will be implemented to avoid or minimize adverse effects of the project.

PUBLIC REVIEW

The A Canal Fish Screen EA and this FONSI are available for public review. Copies of the EA were sent out for public review and comment to the interested groups on the attached list. Additional copies were also made available at Reclamation's Klamath Basin Area Office, Klamath County Public Library, and Oregon Institute of Technology Library in Klamath Falls, Oregon.

DECISION

Reclamation has decided to implement the proposed action (installation of the fish screen and reconstruction of the headworks). Implementation may take place immediately. Reclamation believes that this alternative best meets the purpose and need for the proposal.